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NEWS RELEASE

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Criminal Charges Filed Against Utah County Man for Selling Fake Stock Options *Bushman took money from investors to exercise non-existent stock options from Intel, Sun ...*

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah – Criminal charges were filed today against Harold Earl Bushman, of Orem, for taking \$54,975 from four investors between 2002 and 2006, saying the money would be used to exercise stock options from Sun Microsystems and Intel Corporation. The charges were filed by Utah County Attorney Jeff Buhman. Bushman is charged with eleven counts of securities fraud and one count of a pattern of unlawful activity (racketeering).

The charges are based on allegations that Bushman approached two neighbors and fellow members of his church congregation, saying he formerly worked for Sun and Intel and that he had stock options he could exercise at a low price and resell at a high price. The profits would be given to the investors. Bushman said he would handle everything: exercising the options, selling the stock, then paying the profit to the investors. One couple gave Bushman \$5,500 for Intel options. Bushman also took an additional \$5,175 from the couple, saying the money would be used to purchase semi-conductors at a steep discount and resell them for a large profit.

In August, the couple became suspicious and demanded a refund of their investment. Bushman promised to pay all funds owed soon. It was during this time that Bushman solicited funds from a second investor. Bushman raised \$7,700 from the second investor, saying the money would be used to exercise stock options from Sun Microsystems. The second investor made three separate investments. In each instance, most of the money from the third investor was used to make payments to the couple that had demanded refunds. The first couple received a full refund. Two other investors gave \$36,600 to Bushman.

The charges of fraud arise from allegations that Bushman failed to tell the investors that he owed over \$120,000 in unpaid court judgments against him, that he had taken money from other investors and never repaid them, and that he never worked for Intel or Sun.

In July, 2007, Bushman consented to an order entered by the Utah Division of Securities in which Bushman admitted violating Utah's securities laws and agreed to cease and desist any violations. He has paid \$24,975 in restitution to three of the investors, but still owes \$30,000 to another investor.

Investors are urged to contact the Division to make sure anyone offering investments is licensed. 801.530.6600, or toll free at 1.800.721.7233. www.securities.utah.gov.